

## Quick Reference Guide For Comparison Essay Writing

Comparative			
	Rubric	Must Do's	Should NOT Do's
1	Thesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be in 1<sup>st</sup> or last ¶</li> <li>Answer the Question (<u>What</u>, <u>Where</u>, <u>When</u>)</li> <li>Include 1 Sim &amp; 1 Diff (try for 2 sims, 2 diffs?)</li> <li>"While/Although/Despite (<i>A</i> was sim), (<i>B</i> was diff)."</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A + B) were (sim &amp; diff) [Not clear <i>which</i> was <i>which</i>?]</li> </ul>
2	Addresses Parts of Question	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss 2 similarities (3 if possible)</li> <li>Discuss 2 differences (3 if possible)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>only sim's (no diff's)</li> <li>only diff's (no sim's)</li> </ul>
3	Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Give 6 specific examples of evidence (for 2 pts)</li> <li>Give 3 specific examples of evidence (for 1 pt)</li> </ul>	
4	Direct Comparison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Makes at least 1 relevant, specific direct comparison ("Cue" words: also, as well, both, shared, in addition, like, similarly, too, however, on the other hand, conversely, differently, disagree, in contrast, either, neither, in opposition to, unlike, in contrast to, while)</li> <li>Put a comma between <i>this</i> &amp; <i>that</i>, <i>here</i> &amp; <i>there</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parallel/Indirect Comparisons ("This happened here. [Period] That happened there.")</li> </ul>
5	Analysis of Sim/Diff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explains reason(s) for a similarity/difference <b>WHY?</b>  <i>because</i>      <i>led to</i>      <i>caused by</i>      <i>due to</i>  <i>affected</i>      <i>impacted</i>      <i>came from</i>      <i>in order to</i> </li> </ul>	

### Comparative

Instead of "Similar," try ...

akin	comparable	correlative	kin	reciprocal
allied	complementary	corresponding	kindred	related
analogous	congruent	homogeneous	like	resembling
coincidental	congruous	identical	matching	twin
collateral	consonant	in agreement	parallel	uniform
companion				

Instead of "Different," try ...

altered	deviating	far cry from	offbeat	single
antithetic	discrepant	incomparable	opposed	unlike
at odds	disparate	inconsistent	otherwise	unequal
clashing	distant	individual	particular	unrelated
contrary	distinct	like night and day	peculiar	varied
contrasting	divergent	mismatched	poles apart	various
contrastive	diverse			